

REMARKS

In the Office Action of November 7, 2002, the Examiner objected to the specification and rejected a number of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102, as being unpatentable over Aron. Applicant has amended the specification as indicated by the Examiner. With respect to the claims, it is submitted that all pending claims are in condition for allowance.

With respect to claim 1, Aron does not teach a retractable projection as set forth in the claim. Therefore, claim 1 and all claims depending therefrom should be in condition for allowance.

Claim 8 has been rewritten in independent form and should be allowable.

Claim 16 further claims a release on the mounting pin. It is respectfully submitted that Aron lacks such a structure as claimed. Therefore, claim 16 and all claims depending therefrom should be allowed.

Claim 21 has been recast in independent form and is believed to be allowable over the prior art.

Claim 23 claims a detent and a retractable projection in such a manner as is clearly not shown in Aron. Therefore, claim 23 should be allowed, along with all claims depending therefrom.

Claims 26 through 28 have been recast in independent form and are believed to be allowable.

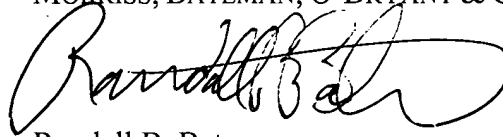
Claim 31 has been added. Claim 31 attempts to clarify the language regarding the annular groove which receives the projection from the mounting pin. Applicant was unable to find such a structure in Aron. If the Examiner intends to maintain the rejection, it is requested that the Examiner identify the specific structure which forms an annular groove about the hole inside the mounting bolt.

In light of the above, Applicant submits that all pending claims are in condition for allowance. Should the examiner determine that any additional adverse action is necessary, it is

respectfully requested that he contact Applicants' attorney, Randall B. Bateman, at (801) 641-1302 so that such matters may be resolved as expeditiously as possible. A check to cover the excess independent claim fee is enclosed. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to credit any overpayment or debit any amount owing in association with this file to Account No. 50-881.

Respectfully Submitted,

MORRISS, BATEMAN, O'BRYANT & COMPAGNI, PC

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Randall B. Bateman', written over a horizontal line.

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[0032] FIG. 2A shows an exploded view of a saddlebag and attachment configuration, and a close-up view of the mounting structure shown in FIG. 2, respectively.

[0033] FIGs. 2B, 2C and 2D show a perspective view of alternate mounting bolts for mounting saddlebags and aissy bar on the motorcycle's fender strut, and a side view of a mounting pin for engaging either of the mounting bolts;

[0070] Turning now to FIGs 7B and 7C, there are shown a side view and an end view of a mounting pin 168. Unlike the prior mounting pin 68, the release button 108' has an enlarged head 108a disposed thereon. The advantage of such a configuration is that the head 108a can be designed to be more aesthetically pleasing. In such a configuration, the cover 154 would need to be larger to accept the head 108.

1. (Amended) A quick release saddlebag system comprising:
a saddlebag for attachment to a motorcycle; and
a mounting structure for mounting the saddlebag to the motorcycle, the mounting structure comprising a mounting bolt and a mounting pin having a retractable projection for holding the mounting pin in the mounting bolt.

5. (Amended) The quick release saddlebag system of claim 4, wherein the hole has a detent formed therein for receiving the retractable projection from the pin.

7. (Amended) The quick release saddlebag system of claim 5, wherein the retractable projection comprises at least one ball extending outwardly from the pin.

8. (Amended) A quick release saddlebag system comprising:
a saddlebag for attachment to a motorcycle; and
a mounting structure for mounting the saddlebag to the motorcycle, the mounting structure comprising a mounting bolt and a mounting pin the mounting pin comprising a retaining ring and a flange.

16. (Amended) A quick release saddlebag system comprising:

a bolt configured for mounting to a fender strut, the bolt having a head with a hole therein configured for receiving a mounting pin;

a mounting pin configured for nesting in the head of a bolt, the mounting pin having a retaining member for selectively securing the mounting pin in the head of the bolt and a release disposed on the mounting pin for selectively releasing the retaining member; and

a saddlebag disposed on the mounting pin.

19. (Canceled)

21. (Amended) A quick release saddlebag system comprising:

a bolt configured for mounting to a fender strut, the bolt having a head with a hole therein configured for receiving a mounting pin;

a mounting pin configured for nesting in the head of a bolt, the mounting pin having a retaining member for selectively securing the mounting pin in the head of the bolt; and

further comprising a saddlebag frame, the saddlebag frame comprising an extension arm having a generally U-shaped attachment member for engaging a foot peg of a motorcycle, wherein the extension arm has an adjustable engagement with the generally U-shaped attachment member for thereby adjusting the length of extension arm.

22. (Canceled)

23. (Amended) A method for mounting a saddlebag on a motorcycle, the method comprising:
attaching a mounting bolt having a hole therein configured to receive a mounting pin to the fender strut of the motorcycle, the hole having a detent formed therein and configured for receiving projections from a mounting pin;

selecting a mounting pin having at least one retractable projection and a saddlebag disposed thereon; and

inserting the mounting pin into the mounting bolt so that the at least one retractable projection of the mounting pin nests in the detent.

24. (Amended) The method according to claim 23, wherein the method comprises selecting a mounting bolt having a head with a hole formed therein and wherein the detent is an annular groove circumscribing the hole.

25. (Amended) The method according to claim 24, wherein the method comprises selecting a mounting pin wherein the at least one retractable projection of the mounting pin comprises a pair of spring loaded balls configured for nesting in the annular groove and a release button for releasing the balls.

26. (Amended) A method for mounting a saddlebag on a motorcycle, the method comprising:

attaching a mounting bolt having a hole therein configured to receive a mounting pin to the fender strut of the motorcycle;

selecting a mounting pin having a saddlebag disposed thereon; and
inserting the mounting pin into the mounting bolt, wherein the method comprises securing the saddlebag on the mounting pin between a flange of the mounting pin and a retaining ring mounted on the mounting pin.

27. (Amended) A method for mounting a saddlebag on a motorcycle, the method comprising:
attaching a mounting bolt having a hole therein configured to receive a mounting pin to the fender strut of the motorcycle;
selecting a mounting pin having a saddlebag disposed thereon; and
inserting the mounting pin into the mounting bolt, wherein the method comprises pressing a release button on the mounting pin to insert the mounting pin into the mounting bolt.

28. (Amended) A method for mounting a saddlebag on a motorcycle, the method comprising:
attaching a mounting bolt having a hole therein configured to receive a mounting pin to the fender strut of the motorcycle;
selecting a mounting pin having a saddlebag disposed thereon; and
inserting the mounting pin into the mounting bolt, wherein the method comprises releasing the saddlebag from attachment to the mounting bolt by pressing a release button on the mounting pin.

31. (New) A quick release saddlebag system comprising:

a saddlebag for attachment to a motorcycle; and

a mounting structure for mounting the saddlebag to the motorcycle, the mounting structure comprising a mounting bolt having a hole disposed therein, the hole having an annular groove therein for receiving a projection from a mounting pin and a mounting pin.